

**In the Claims Amend:**

Please amend the claims as follows (a clean copy reflecting these amendments has been provided as an appendix):

1. (Once Amended) A liquid electrophotographic developing apparatus, comprising:

a developing unit, having an elongated opening disposed adjacent to a moving image-bearing surface of a photoreceptor, for converting an electrostatic latent image into a toner image; and

an air duct, provided around the elongated opening of the developing unit, containing air flow therein having a predetermined air pressure to hold a liquid developer within a space substantially between the elongated opening [developing unit] and the image-bearing surface while permitting toner particles in the liquid developer deposited on the image-bearing surface to be retained by the image-bearing surface and allowing volatile solvent in the developer to be vaporized into the surrounding atmosphere.

I. 6. (Once Amended) A liquid electrophotographic developing apparatus, comprising:

a plurality of developing units, each having an elongated opening disposed adjacent to a moving image-bearing surface of a photoreceptor which passes adjacent to the plurality of developing units in succession, for converting an electrostatic latent image into a toner image, each of the plurality of developing units containing a liquid developer of a different color; and

a plurality of air ducts, each provided around the elongated opening of [the] a respective one of the plurality of developing units, containing air flow therein having a predetermined air pressure, for causing the liquid developer to be retained adjacent to the elongated opening in the